



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

- Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

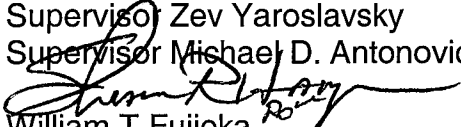
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

August 7, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: 
William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains a report on pursuit of water supply policy and principles.

Pursuit of Water Supply Policy and Principles

On Tuesday, August 18, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 4202 in the State Capitol, the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee chaired by Assembly Member Huffman, and the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee chaired by Senator Pavley, will hold a joint informational hearing on legislation affecting water and the Delta. The County Sacramento advocates will attend this joint hearing on water.

The joint informational hearing will include discussion of the Legislature's proposed Water Conference Committee, which expects to produce a comprehensive water package by mid-September. Some of the issues rumored to be addressed by the Conference Committee include water storage, governance, and the possibility of a ballot initiative. The members of the two-house Conference Committee have not been officially selected, but rumors have Assembly Members Fuller, Huffman, and Caballero on the Assembly Conference Committee. The Senate conferees are less clear, with Senators Simitian, Wolk, and Pavley claiming primacy and special interest in water issues, but the rules of the Legislature limit the Senate's three conferees to two Democrats and a Republican. Senator Steinberg has yet to weigh in on the final selections.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

**Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are Two-Sided
Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only**

The five bills reported to be the focus of the Water Conference Committee are:

- AB 39 (Huffman), which would state legislative intent to establish a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Plan;
- County-support in concept AB 49 (Feuer), which would state legislative intent to establish a 20 percent water efficiency requirement for agricultural and urban water users by 2020;
- SB 12 (Simitian), which would state legislative intent to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Stewardship Council;
- SB 229 (Pavley), which would state legislative intent to authorize actions to be undertaken prior to the adoption of a comprehensive Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Plan; and
- SB 458 (Wolk), which would state legislative intent to establish a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy and to modify the Delta Protection Commission.

As the most populous county in California, Los Angeles County **supports the passage of water supply legislation to increase the reliability of State and local water supplies with appropriate infrastructure and equitable funding levels.** Consistent with this policy, the County supports the following principles:

- **Local Water Reliability and Conservation:** Preserve existing supplies and promote local supply reliability and conservation through various approaches including demand reduction, recycling, and groundwater recharge.
- **Protection and Improvement of Water Quality:** Protect and improve water quality including drinking water, groundwater, stormwater, and urban runoff.
- **New Water Supplies:** Create new water supplies using a variety of approaches including preservation of water by recycling, enhanced storage capacity through seismic retrofit and modification of existing structures and increased utilization of spreading grounds and debris basins.
- **Conveyance and Local Storage:** Provide for a reliable statewide stormwater capture, storage, and conveyance system to deliver water supplies to Southern California. Allocate funding for large storage and conveyance systems based on sound planning, engineering, and economic analysis.

- **Bond Funding and Appropriations:** Authorize a significant level of water supply bond funding and appropriations consistent with the above principles.
- **Equitable Allocation Criteria for Regional Projects:** Allocate competitive grant funds primarily on the basis of population to State-recognized Integrated Regional Water Management regions.
- **Delta Sustainability:** Support short-term and long-term actions that create a sustainable Delta ecosystem that will create a healthy, durable estuary and reliable water supply.

These general principles were developed by this office in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, and approved by your Board on October 16, 2007. The principles are consistent with existing County policy to support legislation to: 1) improve the reliability of water imported into Los Angeles County; 2) encourage water conservation and increase the efficiency of water use; and 3) increase the use of recycled water within Los Angeles County. They are also consistent with the April 3, 2007 Report of the Infrastructure Task Force to maximize the amount of funding available to the County from the various bond acts, and Board action of October 16, 2007 directing the Chief Executive Officer to communicate to the State Legislature the Board's position to support a hybrid solution for the issue of water conservation, addressing both water storage and its quality and conservation. **Therefore, the Sacramento advocates will promote these general principles in the Water Conference Committee and use them to guide our advocacy efforts.**

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
EW:IGEA:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants